chapter 2 Kocchimuite Waratte

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Kocchimuite Waratte

こっち向いて笑って

CHAPTER 2

Bar
AJI YO SHI
Quality Kanto ga Shiro
HEY,
KAKE-
OH,
PERFECT TIMING
TAKE THIS
TO TABLE SIX

I'm your senpai, you know!
Excuse me!
Yes
PISSED
It's been a month since that
That
His behaviour hasn't changed one bit
Even though he was kind of cute the other day
One moment please
Ah, here, here I'm first
Bwahahaha!

CAN YOU STAY A LITTLE EXTRA TODAY?
TODAY'S A BIT INCONVENIENT
Sorry
I SEE
It's not like he's suddenly avoiding me
Everything's just like usual
Exactly like usual
clatter

AGAIN?
Let's go!
HMM...
WHAT'S UP? YOU TWO CLOSE LATELY?
There's such an overall lack of change
that I end up questioning whether the confession actually happened...

Or if it was something my unpopular self dreamt up

IT MIGHT BE
ALTHOUGH IF I WAS GOING TO DREAM UP SOMETHING LIKE THAT I'D HAVE SOONER MADE IT A GIRL
TALKING TO YOURSELF?
SHOULD I ANSWER?
NO
WELL
YEAH?
SO I WAS CONFESSED TO BY A KOUHAI FROM WORK THE OTHER DAY
OOOH!

I MEAN, YOU CONFESS BECAUSE YOU WANT TO SOMEHOW CHANGE THE STATUS QUO... RIGHT?
NORMALLY
YEAH?
BUT THERE'S REALLY BEEN NO CHANGE. NO ATTEMPTS AT CONVERSATION. NO SPENDING TIME TOGETHER, NOTHING AT ALL.
HMM...
NO BUT SEE, AFTER I WAS CONFESSED TO...
IT'S LIKE NOTHING'S CHANGED?
MEANING?
ARE YOU GOING TO DATE HER?
CUTE?
WHAT IS SHE LIKE?
I GUESS IN SOME WAYS...
CUTE...
OOH?
THEN GO FOR IT?
IF YOU THINK SHE'S CUTE, WHY NOT?
YEAH, BUT
It's a guy
MAYBE SHE'S EMBARRASSED?
NAH... NOT THE TYPE...
OH?
AH, SO,
WHAT IS SHE LIKE, THEN? CUTE? ARE YOU GOING TO DATE HER?

I was confessed to for the first time in high school by a girl from the next class over. Not knowing whether I actually liked her or not, we started dating.

How sad

I really don't know what it feels like

Is that really all there is to liking someone?

Even though she let me do it with her, I eventually started wondering what she saw in me and whether I really liked her or not. It just got to be a pain in the ass.

'I bet I'll end up living my whole life without ever falling in love.'

Or something like that.

And I thought,

Ow

We broke up.

She hit me when she dumped me!

What a thing to think for a brat who's only lived a few years past a decade
Although I still think it's likely
I'm hungry
Lunch
Gyuudon and burgers and such are starting to get old, but
My choices are pretty limited as long as I'm eating alone
But I guess that's really not so bad
step
step
step
I still don't know what it feels like to fall in love
Hm?
Ah

He's leaving
Ah
What shitty timing
Ugh
Looks like he's headed back from class, so it should be fine!
I'll make him grab some food with me!
Lucky!
BEEP
KAKE...
BEEP
BEEP
Oh!
Phone!
flip
I don't know his number

Ahahaha!
rustle
Gyuudon it is

JOLT
open
AH...
HEEEEEEY!
ASAZOOOO-
AJI YO SHI
AH HUH?
HELLO
shut
...
ARE YOU ATTEND-ING THE YEAR-END PARTY?
AH, YES
ANY INCON-VENIENT DAYS?
NOT REALLY

HOW ABOUT YOU, KAKEI?
AH,
NO
SO NO SPECIAL WISHES?
OPEN
NAH.
I'LL PASS.
I SEE ALL RIGHT
okay
It's about time to go, guys.

wipe
YOU SHOULD COME.
Bar
AJI YO SHI
Block 4 5 6
Quiet

HUH?
WELL
WHY NOT...?
I'M NOT GOING
WHAT?
WHY?
THE PARTY
WHERE?
?
Me?
HUH?
REALLY?
WHAT?
WAIT-
SHOCK
THIS GUY SAYS HE'LL COME TO THE PARTY AFTER ALL!
SAKO-SAN!
I'D RUIN THE MOOD. IT'S NOT LIKE ANYONE WOULD HAVE FUN TALKING TO—
BECAUSE...?
See ya
Later

WELL, I NEVER! REALLY!
FOR REAL!
I WAS SO SURE YOU'D NEVER WANT TO GO!
NO...
AH
...
UM
BUT I SEE, I SEE! WAHAHA!
COME, DEFINITELY COME!
OH...
GIVE ME YOUR NUMBER SO I CAN LET YOU KNOW ABOUT THE TIME AND PLACE.
UM... NO... AH
You're not backing out of this!
SAKO-SAN, I'LL SEND YOU HIS NUMBER LATER
OH?
YOU'RE GOING TO MISS THE LAST TRAIN.
AH, SHOOT!
See ya!
...

WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO DO?
THAT'S RIGHT
HAND ME YOUR PHONE.
WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?
IT WON'T KILL YOU TO SPEND SOME TIME WITH YOUR CO-WORKERS
...
COME ON
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO SPREAD MY PERSONAL INFORMATION AROUND ANY STRANGE PLACES, ARE YOU?
WHAT SORT OF PERSON DO YOU THINK I AM?
ANYWAY, IT'S NOT LIKE YOU KNOW MY NUMBER.
WHY EVEN LIE ABOUT-
OH.

BEEP BEEP
PTTT
AH,
WE HAVE THE SAME PROVIDER.
NICE
PTT
BOO-BOO-BOO
'KAY, THANKS
Save mine as well
YOU'RE GOOD AT THIS
I SEE
UM,
GOOD AT WHAT?
WHAT?
EXCHANG-ING NUM-BERS, I MEAN
NO, LIKE, IT'D BE EASIER TO USE INFRA-RED, REALLY
BUT I DON'T KNOW HOW TO DO THAT SO I JUST DID IT THE OLD-FASHIONED WAY
I DON'T EXCHANGE NUMBERS WITH PEOPLE VERY OFTEN
PEOPLE DO THIS ALL THE TIME, YOU KNOW

WELL,
I'M GOING HOME
HUH?
HEY, WAIT-
WHY?
WE'RE GOING THE SAME WAY ANYWAY, SO LET'S GO, TOGETHER!
YOU'RE SO ANNOYING! I'M GOING ALONE!
Why this again?!
twish
...

YOU AREN'T SERIOUSLY ANGRY?
NOT REALLY....
DO YOU... REALLY HATE IT THAT MUCH?
GOING OUT DRINKING.
FORGET IT ALERADY.

IF YOU REALLY DIDN'T WANT TO GO,
THEN I'LL APOLOGIZE.
BUT,
I MEAN, YOU'RE NOT JUST SAYING THAT?
BUT
IT CAN'T BE HELPED AT THIS POINT, SO JUST FORGET IT.
UM...
I'M SORRY. I DIDN'T THINK ABOUT HOW YOU'D FEEL.
I'M.
REALLY SORRY

I'M TELLING YOU JUST FORGET IT
NO,
BUT YOU
SER-IOUSLY,
JUST FORGET IT!
LET IT GO!
WHAT
But
REAL-LY
I'M NOT ANGRY
I JUST...
HUH?
UM...
I'VE NEVER REALLY GONE TO THAT SORT OF THING
WITH SO MANY PEOPLE BEFORE...

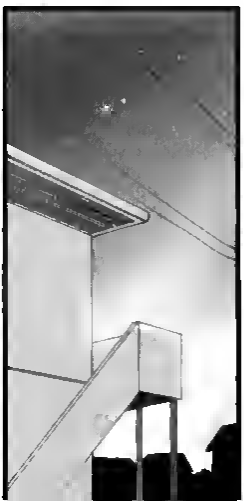
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO TALK ABOUT...
HUH?!
WHAT, YOU MEAN THIS IS ALL BECAUSE YOU'RE GETTING NERVOUS?!
W-WELL, OBVIOUSLY! UNLIKE YOU, I'M-

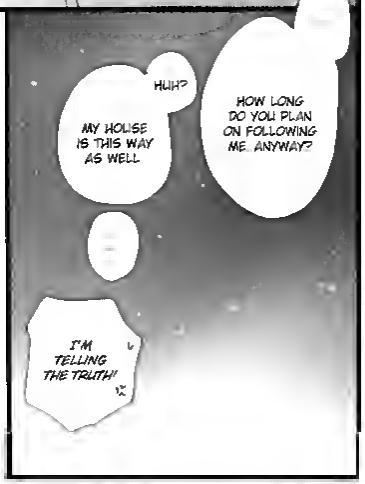
ANYWAY, I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE GETTING SO WORKED UP OVER
NOTHING
...
HUH?
ME?
WHAT ABOUT ME?
JUST ACT LIKE YOU ALWAYS DO WHEN YOU'RE TALKING TO ME
NO, THAT'S
WHAT?
NOTHING

FINE
I JUST HAVE TO TALK NORMALLY, GOT IT. I'LL DO MY BEST
OR TRY TO, ANY-WAY
HAHA!
WHAT'S SO FUNNY?
NO-THING!
HAHAHA!
YOU'LL BE FINE! YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN ABLE TO DO WHATEVER YOU PUT YOUR MIND INTO!
THAT'S THE SPIRIT!
WAHAHA!
HOW WELL ARE YOU SAYING YOU KNOW ME?

AH SERIOUSLY, STOP CLINGING TO ME
GOD, YOU'RE PISSING ME OFF.
WHAT?
YOU KILL-JOY. DIDN'T YOU SAY YOU WEREN'T MAD ANYMORE?
THAT'S NOT WHAT'S PISSING ME OFF RIGHT NOW

Damn!

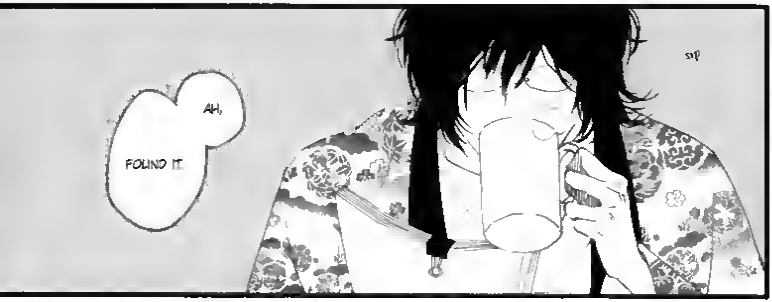


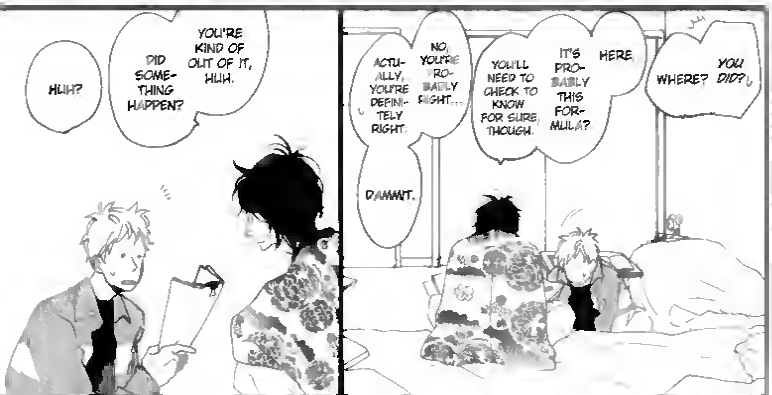

HUH?
MY HOUSE IS THIS WAY AS WELL
HOW LONG DO YOU PLAN ON FOLLOWING ME. ANYWAY?
I'M TELLING THE TRUTH!

YOU LIVE REALLY CLOSE
WELL, YEAH
I ALWAYS HAVE TO STAY LATE AT WORK BECAUSE OF THAT... THOUGH
NO, I MEAN,
CLOSE TO ME
OH...
SO WHERE IS...
YOUR PLACE?
THAT WAY.
A SHORT STRETCH AFTER YOU CROSS THE HIGHWAY.
NEAR THE CITY HALL?
AROUND THERE, YEAH.
HUH...
...
WELL, BYE.
WANT TO KISS GOOD-BYE?
I DON'T NEED A KISS DEVOID OF MEANING, THANKS.
I'M GOING TO PUNCH YOU.

KENTA?
HUH?
AH?
I WAS JUST WONDERING IF YOU WANTED COFFEE
DID YOU SAY SOMETHING?
AND IF SO, HOW 'BOUT A GAME OF ROCK, PAPER, SCISSORS?
OH...
WHAT?
WHAT?
WHAT...?
WHAT....?

WHY,
HOW NICE OF YOU~
I'LL MAKE SOME.
I WAS HAVING TROUBLE CONCENTRATING ANYWAY.
CLATTER
YOU WANT IT STRONG?
YEP.


AH,
FOUND IT.
SIP


HUH?
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?
YOU'RE KIND OF OUT OF IT, HUH.
ACTUALLY, YOU'RE DEFINITELY RIGHT.
NO, YOU'RE PROBABLY RIGHT...
DAMMIT.
YOU'LL NEED TO CHECK TO KNOW FOR SURE, THOUGH.
IT'S PROBABLY THIS FORMULA?
HERE.
WHERE?
YOU DID?

OH!
I KNOW!
YOU WERE THINKING ABOUT THAT GIRL WHO CONFESSED TO YOU, WEREN'T YOU?
NO, NO, NO...
WELL...
ACTUALLY...
HM?
I WAS THINKING SOMETHING A LITTLE MORE BASIC...
HMM?
OOH!
SO? WHAT WILL YOU DO?
WILL YA DATE HER? WILL YA?
A LITTLE
MAYBE
WELL...

I DON'T REALLY GET IT, BUT I BET SHE'D BE HAPPY IF SHE KNEW YOU WERE SO PRE-OCCUPIED BECAUSE OF HER
WORRY YOUR HEART OUT!
MM

I'd like to talk to him pro-perly
I'd like to

really...
get to know him.